

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-32 are allowed. Claim 4 is amended herein to correct some informalities. Claim 26 is sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Patrick Garrett
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 39,987

Date: 12/20/04

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600
328530v1